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Irish Minutes;

1815

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MINUTES
OF
SEVERAL CONVERSATIONS
BETWEEN THE
METHODIST PREACHERS
IN
IRELAND,
IN A
CONFERENCE

BEGUN IN
DUBLIN,

ON THE

Seventh of July, 1815.

DUBLIN:
PRINTED BY R. NAPPER, 140, CAPEL STREET.

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MINUTES, &c.

Question 1.

WHAT Preachers are admitted into *full connexion* this year?

Answer.

Edward Cobain, Robert Cranston.

William Wilson *,

Q. 2. *Who remain on trial?*

Answer.

Thomas Hurst, John Campbell.

Robert Masaroon,

These have travelled *three* years.

William Pollock, John M'Kinney.

These have travelled *two* years.

Q. 3. *Who are admitted on trial?*

Answer.

John Jebbs,

James Horne,

William Richey,

John Hill,

Joseph Egerton,

William M'Kee.

Q. 4. Are there any objections to any of our Preachers?

* Brother Wilson is on a foreign mission;—referred to the British Conference, to be admitted.

A. They were examined one by one.

Q. 5. Who has desisted from travelling?

A. James M'Quige.

Q. 6. How are the Preachers stationed this year?

A. As follow, viz.

FIRST, THE DUBLIN DISTRICT.

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| 1 <i>Dublin,</i> | William Smith, Wm. Stewart,
Samuel Kyle: Andrew Hamilton, Jun. Editor; T. W. Doolittle, Book Steward: John Kerr, William Ferguson, Supernumeraries. |
| 2 <i>Longford,</i> | B. Dowling, Michael Burrows: John Price, Superannuated. |
| 3 <i>Drogheda,</i> | H. Deery, T. Loughhead: Richard Price, Supernumerary. |
| 4 <i>Oldcastle,</i> | Edward Johnson, William Pollock. |
| 5 <i>Wicklow,</i> | James M'Cutcheon, William Finlay: Alexander Moore*, George Mahon, Supernumeraries. |

Henry Deery, Chairman of the District.

SECONDLY, THE WATERFORD DISTRICT.

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| 6 <i>Waterford,</i> | Samuel Wood, Robt. Banks. D. M'Mullen, Supernumerary. |
|---------------------|---|

* Brother Moore's name was omitted last year by mistake.

- 7 *Carlow*, James Sterling Robt. Bruze.
 8 *Newtownbarry*, C. Graham, John Hadden,
Samuel Wood, Chairman of the District.

THIRDLY, THE CORK DISTRICT.

- 9 *Cork*, Charles Mayne, F. Russel.
 10 *Bandon*, William Copeland, Robert
 Masaroon.
 11 *Skibbereen*, John Carey.
 12 *Mallow*, Thomas Brown, John Howe.
Charles Mayne, Chairman of the District.

FOURTHLY, THE LIMERICK DISTRICT.

- 13 *Limerick*, Matthew Tobias, Andrew Ha-
 milton, Senior, William
 Reilly.
 14 *Milltown*, John Waugh.
 15 *Roscrea*, John Stuart, George Burrows.
 16 *Clough-jordan*, James Stuart, Michael Mur-
 phy.
 17 *Mountrath*, Gustavus Armstrong, Thomas
 Waugh.
Matthew Tobias, Chairman of the District.

FIFTHLY, THE ATHLONE DISTRICT.

- 18 *Athlone*, James Rutledge, John Ro-
 gers, Robert Carson : James
 Rennick, Superannuated.
 19 *Aughrim*, Wm. Crook, George Hans-
 brow.
 20 *Castlebar*, Thomas Ridgeway, Daniel
 Pedlow.
 21 *Ballina*, John Clegg, Wm. Foote.
 22 *Sligo*, Archibald Murdoch, James
 Horne.

23 Boyle, Charles M'Cormick, Samuel Downing.

A. Murdoch, Chairman of the District.

SIXTHLY, THE CLONES DISTRICT.

24 Clones, J. C. Irvine, Adam Averell, James, Killen.

25 Killesandra, Francis Armstrong, Castor Clements.

26 Cavan, John Clendinnen, Wm. Keys.

27 Monaghan, Wm. Douglas, J. Edwards: Wm. Armstrong, Thomas Barber, Superannuated.

Adam Averell, Chairman of the District.

SEVENTHLY, THE ENNISKILLEN DISTRICT.

28 Enniskillen, Robert Crozier, J. C. Pratt, John Jebb: John M'Adam, Supernumerary.

N. B. Brother Jebb to change with Brother Armstrong of the Mountrath circuit, whenever he may find it necessary.

29 Manorhamilton, Robt. Strong, Geo. M'Elwain.

30 Ballyshannon, James Smith, John Campbell.

31 Ballinamallard*, M. Stuart, John Remington: Joseph Armstrong, Superannuated.

* Letters to the Ballinamallard Circuit to be directed to Irvinstown.

- 32 *Brookborough*, John M'Arthur, John Nesbit: George Brown, Superannuated.

Robert Crozier, Chairman of the District.

EIGHTHLY, THE LONDONDERRY DISTRICT.

- 33 *Londonderry*, John Dinnen, Robt. Smith.

- 34 *Strabane*, Thomas Kerr, James Johnson, James Jordan, Supernumerary.

- 35 *Newtownstewart*, James Irwin, William Gilcriest.

- 36 *Stranorlar*, Charles M'Cord, Archibald Campbell.

John Dinnen, Chairman of the District.

NINTHLY, THE BELFAST DISTRICT.

- 37 *Belfast*, George Stephenson, Matthew Lanktree: John Bredin, superannuated.

- 38 *Carrickfergus*, John Nelson, John Hill.

- 39 *Colerain*, Alexander Sturgeon, Edward Cobain.

- 40 *Lisburn*, James Bell, William Kidd.

- 41 *Downpatrick*, William M'Cornock, James Carter: John Forster, Supernumerary.

M. Lanktree, Chairman of the District.

TENTHLY, THE NEWRY DISTRICT.

- 42 *Newry*, Thomas Johnson, William Armstrong.

- 43 *Dungannon*, John Wilson, Robert Wilson.

- 44 *Cookstown*, Robert Bailey, Wm. Richey.
 45 *Charlemont*, James Olliffe, Samuel Harpur.
 46 *Armagh*, Samuel Steele, Robt. Cranston.
 47 *Lurgan*, James M'Kee, S. M. Dowall.
 48 *Tanderagee*, David Waugh, Zech. Worrel:
 John Malcomson, Superan-
 nuated.

T. Johnson, Chairman of the District.

IRISH MISSIONARIES.

- The Wicklow Mission.* } Andrew Taylor.
 2 *Cove Mission*, Richard Phillips.
 3 *Kinsale Mission*, Joseph Harman.
 4 *Clare Mission*, Francis Stephens.
 5 *Boylagh Mission*, Wm. Cornwall; to change
 with the Junior Preacher on
 the Ballyshannon Circuit.
 6 *Donegal Mission*, Edward Hazleton.
 7 *Londonderry & Antrim Mission*, } Gideon Ousley, William
 Hamilton, Arthur Noble,
 Joseph Egerton, William
 M'Kee.

N. B. *Letters to the Antrim Mission, to be directed to Ballymena.*

- 8 *Castle-Blaney Mission*, } John Hamilton, King Bar-
 ton.
 9 *Newry Mission*, Samuel Alcorn.

Q: 7 How many wives are to be provided for this year?

A. Seventy-six, viz..

Sister Smith,	Sister Brown,
(W.) Stewart,	Howe,
(A.) Hamilton, Jun.	Tobias,
Doolittle,	(A.) Hamilton, Sen.

Sister Kerr,
 Ferguson,
 Dowling,
 Burrows,
 Deery,
 Loughheed,
 Copeland,
 Hansbrow,
 Ridgway,
 Pedlow,
 Clegg,
 Murdoch,
 M'Cormick,
 Irvine,
 Clements,
 Clendinnen,
 Keys,
 Douglas,
 Edwards,
 Pratt,
 M'Adam,
 Strong,
 M'Elwain,
 (J.) Smith,
 (M.) Stuart,
 Remmington,
 M'Arthur,
 Nesbit,
 Dinnen,
 (R.) Smith,

Sister (J.) Waugh,
 (John) Stuart,
 (James) Stuart,
 Murphy,
 (T.) Waugh,
 Rutledge,
 Rogers,
 (T.) Kerr,
 Jordan,
 Irwin,
 Campbell,
 Stephenson,
 Lanktree,
 Nelson,
 Sturgeon,
 Bell,
 Kidd,
 M'Cornock,
 Carter,
 Forster,
 Johnson,
 Armstrong,
 (J.) Wilson,
 Bailey,
 Olliffe,
 Harpur,
 Steele,
 M'Dowell,
 (D.) Waugh,

Q. 8. What are the Contributions of the
 Circuits, towards the Support of Wives?

A. As follow, viz.
 Dublin, - - -

British Currency.

£.	s.	d.
32	0	0

			£.	s.	d.
	Brought forward,		32	0	0
Longford,	-	-	20	0	0
Drogheda,	-	-	22	0	0
Oldcastle,	-	-	7	0	0
Wicklow,	-	-	28	0	0
Waterford,	{ City,	-	8	0	0
	{ Country,	-	8	0	0
Carlow,	-	-	16	0	0
N. T. Barry,	-	-	20	0	0
Cork,	-	-	32	0	0
Bandon,	{ Town,	-	16	0	0
	{ Country,	-	16	0	0
Skibbereen,	-	-	10	0	0
Mallow,	{ Town,	-	4	0	0
	{ Country,	-	7	0	0
Limerick,	{ City,	-	16	0	0
	{ Country,	-	16	0	0
Milltown,	-	-	10	0	0
Roscrea,	{ Town,	-	8	0	0
	{ Country,	-	12	0	0
Clough-Jordan,	-	-	16	0	0
Mountrath,	-	-	28	0	0
Athlone,	-	-	28	0	0
Aughrim,	-	-	12	0	0
Castlebar,	-	-	18	0	0
Ballina,	-	-	16	0	0
Sligo,	-	-	16	0	0
Boyle,	-	-	16	0	0
Clones,	-	-	32	0	0
Ballyconnel,	-	-	16	0	0
Cavan,	-	-	30	0	0
Monaghan,	-	-	16	0	0
Enniskillen,	-	-	34	0	0

586 0 0

			£.	s.	d.
Brought forward,	-	-	586	0	0
Manorhamilton,	-	-	24	0	0
Ballyshannon,	-	-	20	0	0
Ballinamallard,	-	-	32	0	0
Brookborough,	-	-	28	0	0
Londonderry	{	City,	4	0	0
		Country,	6	0	0
Strabane,	-	-	16	0	0
N. T. Stewart,	-	-	30	0	0
Stranorlar,	-	-	12	0	0
Belfast,	-	-	36	0	0
Carrickfergus,	-	-	20	0	0
Colerain	{	Town,	10	0	0
		Country,	16	0	0
Lisburn,	-	-	32	0	0
Downpatrick,	-	-	20	0	0
Newry,	-	-	16	0	0
Dungannon,	-	-	26	0	0
Cookstown,	-	-	10	0	0
Charlemont,	-	-	20	0	0
Armagh,	-	-	12	0	0
Lurgan,	-	-	32	0	0
Tanderagee,	-	-	32	0	0
			1040	0	0

Q. 9. What are the numbers of our Society?

A. As follow, viz.

<i>Numbers in the Society.</i>		<i>Numbers in the Society.</i>	
Dublin,	1420	Newtown-Barry,	523
Longford,	324	Carlow,	250
Drogheda,	355	Cork,	562
Oldcastle,	381	Bandon,	500
Wicklow,	365	Skibbereen,	210
Waterford,	230	Mallow,	195

<i>Numbers in the Society.</i>		<i>Numbers in the Society.</i>	
Limerick,	- 500	Stranorlar,	- 610
Milltown,	- 200	Belfast,	- 625
Roscrea,	- 350	Carrickfergus,	508
Clough-Jordan,	465	Coleraine,	- 699
Mountrath,	- 550	Lisburn,	- 680
Athlone,	- 403	Downpatrick,	518
Aughrim,	- 190	Newry,	- 488
Castlebar,	- 243	Dungannon,	- 671
Ballina,	- 368	Cookstown,	- 630
Sligo,	- 470	Charlemont,	745
Boyle,	- 430	Armagh,	- 470
Clones,	- 979	Lurgan,	- 1086
Killesandra,	- 470	Tanderagee,	- 926
Cavan,	- 730	<i>Missions.</i>	
Monaghan,	- 630	Cove	- 50
Enniskillen,	- 1290	Skibbereen,	- 31
Manorhamilton,	637	Clare,	- 105
Ballyshannon,	830	Donegal,	- 40
Ballinamallard,	1952	Boylagh,	- 232
Brookborough,	1112	Castleblayney,	250
Londonderry,	250		
Strabane,	- 614		<u>29,357</u>
Newtownlimavady,	215		
Newtownstewart,	800		

N. B. *The numbers of the Enniscorthy Mission are not returned, though there has been considerable success there.*

Q. 10. What has been contributed towards the Preachers' fund?

A. 1. By the Circuits as follow, viz.

	£.	s.	d.
Dublin,	-	-	- 72 0 0
Longford,	-	-	- 5 0 0
Drogheda,	-	-	- 2 6 0
			<u>79 6 0</u>

			£.	s.	d.
	Brought forward,		79	6	0
Oldcastle,	-	-	2	3	0
Wicklow,	-	-	7	5	0
Waterford,	-	-	9	9	0
Carlow,	-	-	2	17	0
Newtown Barry,	-	-	9	4	6
Cork,	-	-	29	4	6
Bandon,	-	-	8	0	0
Skibbereen,	-	-	2	2	0
Mallow,	-	-	154	16	0
Limerick,	-	-	14	16	6
Miltown,	-	-	1	1	0
Roscrea,	-	-	5	0	0
Clough-Jordan,	-	-	3	0	0
Mountrath,	-	-	1	1	0
Athlone,	-	-	7	7	0
Aughrim,	-	-	5	10	0
Castlebar,	-	-	5	0	0
Ballina,	-	-	4	4	0
Sligo,	-	-	4	4	0
Boyle,	-	-	3	12	6
Clones,	-	-	59	8	6
Killesandra,	-	-	1	1	0
Cavan,	-	-	1	1	0
Monaghan,	-	-	1	0	0
Enniskillen,	-	-	3	10	0
Manorhamilton,	-	-	2	0	0
Ballyshannon,	-	-	3	0	0
Ballinamallard,	-	-	4	6	8
Brookborough,	-	-	8	13	4
Londonderry,	-	-	3	3	0
Strabane,	-	-	1	16	6
Newtown Limavady,	-	-	29	11	6
			<hr/>		
			243	16	0

	£.	s.	d.
Brought forward,	243	16	0
Newtown Stewart, -	1	3	0
Stranorlar, -	2	14	6
Belfast, -	5	0	0
Carrickfergus, -	2	2	6
Coleraine, -	4	0	0
Lisburn, -	4	1	0
Downpatrick, -	2	6	6
Newry, -	4	8	0
Dungannon, -	2	8	0
Cookstown, -	1	17	0
Charlemont, -	1	10	6
Armagh, -	1	4	0
Lurgan, -	5	2	0
Tanderagee, -	2	2	0
A Friend, by Mr. Hamilton,	9	4	6
By the Subscriptions of the } Preachers,	194	15	6
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	487	15	0

Q. 11. How has this been expended?

A. As follows, viz.

	£.	s.	d.
To John Bredin, -	24	0	0
William Armstrong, Sen. -	25	4	0
John Malcomson, -	25	4	0
Ann Darrah, -	25	4	0
Thomas Barber, -	36	15	0
John Price, -	36	15	0
Alice Anderson, -	12	12	0
Eliza Wilson, -	31	10	0
James Rennick, -	31	10	0
George Brown, -	42	0	0
Joseph Armstrong, -	36	15	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	327	9	0

	£.	s.	d.
Brought forward,	327	9	0
Mary Grace,	36	15	0
Alice Gordon,	25	4	0
Mary Harrison,	12	12	0
Avice Peacock,	12	12	0
James Jordan,	31	10	0
John Stephenson,	25	4	0
Daniel M'Mullen,	31	10	0
Alexander Moore,	31	10	0
John Kerr,	42	0	0
William Ferguson,	36	15	0
Richard Price,	25	4	0
John M'Adam,	25	4	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	663	9	0

N. B. *The deficiency is to be paid from the Preacher's Fund in England.*

Q. 12. What has been contributed by the Circuits, towards the Education of the Preachers' Children?

A. As follows, viz.	£.	s.	d.
Dublin,	60	8	2
Longford,	7	6	6
Drogheda,	8	2	0
Oldcastle,	1	15	0
Wicklow,	12	4	0
Waterford,	23	15	0
Carlow,	7	9	0
Newtown-Barry,	25	8	5
Cork,	30	15	6
Bandon,	19	7	6
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	196	11	1

			£.	s.	d.
	Brought forward,		196	11	1
Skibbereen,	-	-	4	0	0
Mallow,	-	-	5	2	6
Limerick,	-	-	18	9	6
Milltown,	-	-	4	0	0
Roscrea,	-	-	15	0	0
Clough-Jordan,	-	-	3	12	6
Mountrath,	-	-	5	10	0
Athlone,	-	-	6	10	6
Aughrim,	-	-	4	19	0
Castlebar,	-	-	8	16	0
Ballina,	-	-	2	13	6
Sligo,	-	-	3	8	0
Boyle,	-	-	5	3	6
Clones,	-	-	8	3	4
Killesandra,	-	-	3	6	6
Cavan,	-	-	4	6	0
Monaghan,	-	-	3	7	2
Enniskillen,	-	-	7	0	1
Manorhamilton,	-	-	5	4	0
Ballyshannon,	-	-	6	10	0
Ballinamallard,	-	-	4	7	0
Brookborough,	-	-	3	3	0
Londonderry,	-	-	20	0	0
Strabane,	-	-	4	19	0
Newtown-Limavady,	-	-	1	11	0
Newtown Stewart,	-	-	4	4	0
Stranorlar,	-	-	4	10	0
Belfast,	-	-	16	0	0
Carrickfergus,	-	-	8	0	0
Colerain,	-	-	4	4	0
Lisburn,	-	-	9	1	6
Downpatrick,	-	-	10	4	6
Newry,	-	-	9	11	0
			<hr/>		
			421	8	2

			£.	s.	d.
	Brought forward,		421	8	2
Dungannon,	-	-	7	6	0
Cook's-town,	-	-	4	2	0
Charlemont,	-	-	4	3	6
Armagh,	-	-	4	6	0
Lurgan,	-	-	9	13	0
Tanderagee,	-	-	16	4	9
Mrs. Sheil's Legacy,	-	-	5	8	4
Antrim Mission,	-	-	2	0	0
			<hr/>		
			474	11	9

Q. 13. What has been contributed towards the support of our Missions?

A. By the public Collection, as follows, viz.

			£.	s.	d.
Dublin,	-	-	46	14	6
Longford,	-	-	4	6	6
Drogheda,	-	-	6	4	0
Oldcastle,	-	-	3	10	0
Wicklow,	-	-	8	0	0
Waterford,	-	-	6	0	0
Carlow,	-	-	8	8	0
Newtown-Barry,	-	-	14	0	0
Cork,	-	-	31	0	0
Bandon,	-	-	23	0	0
Skibbereen,	-	-	3	0	0
Mallow,	-	-	7	3	0
Roscrea,	-	-	14	4	0
Clough-Jordan,	-	-	3	0	0
Mountrath,	-	-	9	18	0
Athlone,	-	-	12	0	0
Aughrim,	-	-	5	12	0
Castlebar,	-	-	4	6	0
			<hr/>		
			209	8	0

			£.	s.	d.
	Brought forward,		209	18	0
Ballina,	-	-	4	1	0
Sligo, -	-	-	7	1	0
Boyle,	-	-	2	1	8
Clones,	-	-	5	19	0
Killesandra,,	-	-	3	19	6
Cavan,	-	-	2	5	0
Monaghan,	-	-	15	7	0
Enniskillen,	-	-	15	5	0
Manorhamilton,	-	-	9	2	6
Ballyshannon, -	-	-	5	10	0
Ballinamallard,	-	-	6	0	0
Brookborough,	-	-	6	2	7
Londonderry,	-	-	6	11	0
Strabane,	-	-	3	8	0
Newtown-Limavady,	-	-	3	5	0
Newtown-Stewart,	-	-	2	14	6
Stranorlar,	-	-	4	0	0
Belfast,	-	-	16	0	0
Carrickfergus,	-	-	8	1	6
Colerain,	-	-	8	10	0
Lisburn,	-	-	10	0	0
Downpatrick,	-	-	4	0	0
Newry,	-	-	10	10	0
Dungannon,	-	-	5	1	0
Cookstown,	-	-	4	1	0
Charlemont,	-	-	2	16	2
Armagh,	-	-	4	10	0
Lurgan,	-	-	8	2	0
Tanderagee,	-	-	5	13	9
	MISSIONS.				
Enniscorthy,	-	-	2	0	0
Cove,	-	-	5	0	0
Clare,	-	-	10	8	0
			<hr/>		
			417	3	8

			£.	s.	d.
	Brought forward,		417	3	8
Ballymoat,	-	-	4	0	0
Boylagh,	-	-	14	7	6
Antrim,	-	-	5	8	10
Donegall,	-	-	1	15	0
Castleblayney,	-	-	13	5	6
2. By the Auxiliary Missionary Societies, as follows, viz.					
1 Dublin,	-	-	134	1	5
2 Longford,	-	-	14	1	6
3 Athlone,	-	-	8	9	4
4 Boyle,	-	-	24	13	8
5 Clones,	-	-	22	12	6
			<hr/> 659 18 11 <hr/>		

Q. 14. What shall be done in order to prevent persons unauthorized by Conference, from preaching in our Chapels?

A. Any Superintendent permitting such person to preach in any of our houses, shall be removed from his office.

Q. 15. What Preaching-houses are to be built this year?

A. None, because of our present embarrassments.

Q. 16. Several of our Preaching-houses being involved in debt? What shall be done for their assistance?

A. 1. Brothers Deery and Loughed are to raise Subscriptions on the Waterford and Cork Districts, for the Drogheda Chapel.

2. Brothers Sterling and Bruce, on the Carlow, Wicklow, and Mountrath Circuits, for the Athy House.

3. Brothers John Stuart and George Burrows on the Cloughjordan Circuit, for the Rathdowney House.

4. Brothers James Stuart and Murphy, on the Roscrea Circuit, for the Burrisakane House.

5. Brothers Rutledge and Rogers, on the Dublin, Limerick, and Athlone Districts, and the Mountrath Circuits, (the City of Dublin excepted,) for the Tullamore Chapel.

6. Brothers Crook and Hansbrow, on the Athlone Circuit, for the Eyrecourt House.

7. Brother Murdoch, on the Ballina Circuit, for the Coolaney House.

8. Brother Strong, on the Enniskillen District, (Ballyshannon excepted,) for the Swanlingbar House.

9. Brothers Dinnen and Smith, on the Londonderry Circuit, for the Buncrana House.

10. Brothers Kerr and Johnson, on the Londonderry, Belfast, and Newry Districts, (Coleraine Circuit excepted) for the Strabane Chapel.

11. Brother Nelson, on the Carrickfergus and Strabane Circuits, for the Carrickfergus Chapel.

12. Brother M'Cord, on the Stranorlar Circuit, for the Debt of that House.

13. Brother Steele, on the Armagh Circuit, for the Debt of the Armagh Premises.

14. Brothers Edward Johnson and Pollock, on the Clones Circuit, for the Ballyjamesduff House.

Q. 17. What Preachers are on the list of reserve?

A. 1. Richard Tracy of the Limerick Circuit.

2. John Maguire, of the Ballinamallard Circuit.

Q. 18. Who are the Book Committee?

A. Adam Averell, William Smith, Andrew Hamilton, Jun. Matthew Tobias, Sam. Steele, Sam. Wood, John Stuart, and the Dublin Preachers for the time being.

Q. 19. Who is our Representative to the British Conference?

A. Matthew Tobias.

Q. 20. When and where shall our next Conference be held?

A. In Dublin, on the First Friday in July, 1816.

Signed in behalf, and by order of the
Conference,

WALTER GRIFFITH, President.

ROBERT CROZIER, Secretary.

July 24th, 1815.

*A correct Statement of the Question
respecting the Ordinances.*

As in the Conference of 1814, a discussion took place, concerning the administration of Baptism and the Lord's Supper in some of our societies; which discussion has been variously represented, some fearing that *a total separation from the Established and other Churches was intended*, but which separation made no part of the discussion at all; we therefore feel it our duty to set the matter in its true light.

In that Conference, petitions from several circuits were laid before us, containing the following statement and request, viz.—“*We have been deprived for many years of the ordinance of the Lord's Supper: and we therefore pray that provision may be made for our receiving it, from the hands of our own Preachers.*” After long deliberation, a vote passed in favour of the claimants, but on re-consideration it was judged right to stay the operation of the said vote for one year.

At this Conference the subject came again before us,—and, upon a full consideration of all our circumstances, it was determined,—That an affectionate Address be written to the Petitioners; stating, that however we may feel for their situation, in the present state of the

Irish Connexion, we cannot grant their request:—But in order to meet their necessities as far as possible, we request our Brother Averell, upon application from the Superintendents of the several circuits concerned, according to his ability and convenience, to administer to them the Holy Sacraments.

Letter to the Societies who have petitioned for the Sacraments, &c.

Dearly beloved Brethren,

You are the fruit of our labours,—the Children of our prayers and tears.—Whatever in your circumstances afflicts, or in your religious progress may embarrass you, must awaken in us the liveliest feelings of just concern. Your case respecting the Supper of our Lord fully came before us,—your letters were all read, and deliberately considered.—We are deeply pained on finding the real distresses many of you labour under. As guardians of Methodism in Ireland, every thing that can be done consistent with the best interests of the body, we feel most cordially disposed to do; but on a review of all circumstances, we assure you, in the most affectionate manner, that in our judgment, to meet your case as might be desired by you, would most certainly prove injurious to our connexion at large;—therefore,

the only thing that can be done by us at present to afford relief, is to request our beloved Brother Averell to visit you as often as possible, to minister to you the precious memorials of redeeming love. We hope, Dear Brethren, that you will continue to evince the peacefulness and long-suffering of the Gospel, and study to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

May the Eternal Spirit shed his holy influence abundantly upon you!

Signed in behalf, and by order of the Conference,

WALTER GRIFFITH, *President*,
ROBERT CROZIER, *Secretary*.

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